

206                    Abstract of the Disclosure

207                    A water insoluble, biocompatible composition that is  
208                    formed by a method which combines, in an aqueous mixture, a  
209                    polyanionic polysaccharide, a nucleophile, and an activating  
210                    agent, under conditions sufficient to form the composition.  
211                    Also, a water insoluble, biocompatible composition that is  
212                    formed by a method which combines, in an aqueous mixture, a  
213                    polyanionic polysaccharide, a modifying compound, a  
214                    nucleophile and an activating agent under conditions  
215                    sufficient to form the composition.

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